

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. An information-signal playback system comprising an information-signal reading apparatus for reading out a main information signal and information on copyright protection from a recording medium containing said main information signal and information on at least copyright protection, and an information-signal processing apparatus for receiving said main information signal and said information on copyright protection received from said information-signal reading apparatus, wherein said information-signal reading apparatus has:

a readout means for reading out said information on copyright protection from said recording medium;

an encryption means for encrypting said information on copyright protection read out by said readout means; and

an output means for supplying said information on copyright protection encrypted by said encryption means and said unencrypted information on copyright protection to said information-signal processing apparatus, and

said information-signal processing apparatus has:

a decryption means for decrypting said encrypted information on copyright protection received from said information-signal reading apparatus; and

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a control means for controlling predetermined processing carried out on said main information signal on the basis of said unencrypted information on copyright protection received from said information-signal reading apparatus and information on copyright protection obtained as a result of decryption carried out by said decryption means.

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2. An information-signal playback system according to claim 1 wherein said information on copyright protection is media-type information indicating the type of said recording medium.

3. An information-signal playback system according to claim 1 wherein said encryption means employed in said information-signal reading apparatus encrypts said information on copyright protection in accordance with a CSS system.

Subst 4. An information-signal playback system according to claim 1 wherein:

additional information for controlling a copy operation has been added to said main information signal recorded on said recording medium;

said information-signal processing apparatus is provided with an additional-information detecting means for detecting said additional information added to said main information signal received from said information-

signal reading apparatus; and

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said control means controls predetermined processing carried out on said main information signal by taking said additional information detected by said information-signal detecting means into consideration.

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5. An information-signal playback system according to claim 4 wherein:

said additional information is information superposed on said main information signal as digital-watermark information; and

said additional-information detecting means employed in said information-signal processing apparatus detects said digital-watermark information superposed on said main information signal.

6. An information-signal playback system comprising an information-signal reading apparatus for reading out a main information signal and information on copyright protection from a recording medium containing said main information signal and information on at least copyright protection, and an information-signal processing apparatus for receiving said main information signal and said information on copyright protection received from said information-signal reading apparatus, wherein said information-signal reading apparatus has:

a readout means for reading out said information on copyright protection from said recording medium;

an encryption means for encrypting said information on copyright protection read out by said readout means;

an output means for supplying said information on copyright protection encrypted by said encryption means and said unencrypted information on copyright protection to said information-signal processing apparatus; and

a readout control means for controlling an operation to read out said main information signal from said recording medium in accordance with a readout-control signal received from said information-signal processing apparatus, and

said information-signal processing apparatus has:

a decryption means for decrypting said encrypted information on copyright protection received from said information-signal reading apparatus; and

a readout-control-signal generating means for generating said readout-control signal based on said unencrypted information on copyright protection received from said information-signal reading apparatus and information on copyright protection obtained as a result of decryption carried out by said decryption means and for supplying said readout-control signal to said information-signal reading apparatus.

7. An information-signal playback system according to claim 6 wherein:

said information-signal processing apparatus is provided with a readout-control-signal encrypting means for encrypting a readout-control signal generated by said a readout-control-signal generating means; and

said information-signal reading apparatus is provided with a control-information decrypting means for receiving and decrypting encrypted a readout-control signal received from said information-signal processing apparatus.

8. An information-signal playback system according to claim 6 wherein said information on copyright protection is media-type information indicating the type of said-recording medium.

9. An information-signal playback system according to claim 6 wherein said encryption means employed in said information-signal reading apparatus encrypts said information on copyright protection in accordance with a CSS system.

10. An information-signal playback system according to claim 7 wherein said a readout-control-signal encrypting means employed in said information-signal processing apparatus carries out encryption processing in accordance with a system different from a

system adopted by said encryption means employed in said information-signal reading apparatus.

11. An information-signal playback system according to claim 6 wherein:

additional information for controlling a copy operation has been added to said main information signal recorded on said recording medium;

said information-signal processing apparatus is provided with an additional-information detecting means for detecting said additional information added to said main information signal received from said information-signal reading apparatus; and

said a readout-control-signal generating means generates a readout-control signal to be supplied to said information-signal reading apparatus by taking said additional information detected by said additional-information detecting means into consideration.

12. An information-signal playback system according to claim 11 wherein:

said additional information is information superposed on said main information signal as digital-watermark information; and

said additional-information detecting means employed in said information-signal processing apparatus detects said digital-watermark information superposed on

said main information signal.

Sub A2 13. An information-signal reading apparatus for reading out a main information signal and information on copyright protection from a recording medium containing said main information signal and information on at least copyright protection and for supplying said signal and said information to an information-signal processing apparatus, said information-signal reading apparatus comprising:

a readout means for reading out said information on copyright protection from said recording medium;

* an encryption means for encrypting said information on copyright protection read out by said readout means;

and

an output means for supplying said information on copyright protection encrypted by said encryption means and said unencrypted information on copyright protection to said information-signal processing apparatus.

Sub A1 14. An information-signal reading apparatus according to claim 13 wherein said information on copyright protection is media-type information indicating the type of said recording medium.

15. An information-signal reading apparatus according to claim 13 wherein said encryption means employed in said information-signal reading apparatus

91 encrypts said information on copyright protection in accordance with a CSS system.

16. An information-signal reading apparatus for reading out a main information signal and information on copyright protection from a recording medium containing said main information signal and information on at least copyright protection and for supplying said signal and said information to an information-signal processing apparatus, said information-signal reading apparatus comprising:

a readout means for reading out said information on copyright protection from said recording medium;

an encryption means for encrypting said information on copyright protection read out by said readout means;

an output means for supplying said information on copyright protection encrypted by said encryption means and said unencrypted information on copyright protection to said information-signal processing apparatus; and

a readout control means for controlling an operation to read out said main information signal from said recording medium in accordance with a readout-control signal received from said information-signal processing apparatus.

17. An information-signal reading apparatus according to claim 16 wherein:

said readout-control signal generated by said information-signal processing apparatus is encrypted information; and

a control-information decrypting means is provided for decrypting said encrypted readout-control signal.

18. An information-signal reading apparatus according to claim 16 wherein said information on copyright protection is media-type information indicating the type of said recording medium.

19. An information-signal reading apparatus according to claim 16 wherein said encryption means employed in said information-signal reading apparatus encrypts said information on copyright protection in accordance with a CSS system.

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20. An information-signal processing apparatus for receiving a main information signal, encrypted information on copyright protection and unencrypted information on copyright protection, said information-signal processing apparatus comprising:

a decryption means for decrypting said encrypted information on copyright protection; and

a control means for controlling predetermined processing carried out on said main information signal on the basis of said unencrypted information on copyright protection and information on copyright protection

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obtained as a result of decryption carried out by said decryption means.

21. An information-signal processing apparatus according to claim 20 wherein said information on copyright protection is media-type information indicating the type of said recording medium.

22. An information-signal processing apparatus according to claim 20 wherein said encrypted information on copyright protection is information encrypted in accordance with a CSS system.

23. An information-signal processing apparatus according to claim 20 wherein:

additional information for controlling a copy operation has been added to said main information signal; an additional-information detecting means is provided for detecting said additional information added to said main information signal; and

said control means controls an operation to output said main information signal by taking said additional information detected by said information-signal detecting means into consideration.

24. An information-signal processing apparatus according to claim 23 wherein:

said additional information is information superposed on said main information signal as digital.

watermark information; and

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said additional-information detecting means detects
said digital-watermark information superposed on said
main information signal.

25. An information-signal processing apparatus for
receiving a main information signal, encrypted
information on copyright protection and unencrypted
information on copyright protection, said information-
signal processing apparatus comprising:

a decryption means for decrypting said encrypted
information on copyright protection; and

a control-signal generating means for generating
control signal based on said unencrypted information on
copyright protection and information on copyright
protection obtained as a result of decryption carried out
by said decryption means and for supplying said control
signal to a supplier of said main information signal.

26. An information-signal processing apparatus
according to claim 25 wherein:

a control-signal encrypting means is provided for
encrypting control signal generated by said control-
signal generating means; and

said encrypted control signal is supplied to a
supplier of said main information signal.

27. An information-signal processing apparatus

according to claim 25 wherein said information on copyright protection is media-type information indicating the type of said recording medium.

28. An information-signal processing apparatus according to claim 25 wherein said information on copyright protection has been encrypted in accordance with a CSS system.

29. An information-signal processing apparatus according to claim 26 wherein said information on copyright protection has been encrypted in accordance with a system different from a system adopted by said control-signal encrypting means.

30. An information-signal processing apparatus according to claim 25 wherein:

additional information for controlling a copy operation has been added to said main information signal recorded on said recording medium;

an additional-information detecting means is provided for detecting said additional information added to said main information signal; and

said control-signal generating means generates a control signal by taking said additional information detected by said additional-information detecting means into consideration.

31. An information-signal processing apparatus

according to claim 30 wherein:

said additional information is information superposed on said main information signal as digital-watermark information; and

said additional-information detecting means detects said digital-watermark information superposed on said main information signal.

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32. An information-signal playback method for driving an information-signal reading apparatus to read out a main information signal and information on copyright protection from a recording medium containing said main information signal and information on at least copyright protection and supply said main information signal and said information on copyright protection to an information-signal processing apparatus, said information-signal playback method comprising the steps of:

driving said information-signal reading apparatus to supply encrypted information on copyright protection and unencrypted information on copyright protection to said information-signal processing apparatus; and

driving said information-signal processing apparatus to decrypt said encrypted information on copyright protection received from said information-signal reading apparatus, and controls predetermined

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processing carried out on said main information signal on the basis of said unencrypted information on copyright protection received from said information-signal reading apparatus and information on copyright protection obtained as a result of decryption.

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33. An information-signal playback method according to claim 32 wherein said information on copyright protection is media-type information indicating the type of said recording medium.

34. An information-signal playback method according to claim 32 further including the step of encrypting said information on copyright protection in accordance with a CSS system.

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35. An information-signal playback method according to claim 32;

wherein additional information for controlling a copy operation has been added to said main information signal recorded on said recording medium, said information-signal playback method further including the step of driving said information-signal processing apparatus to detect said additional information added to said main information signal and control predetermined processing carried out on said main information signal by taking said detected additional information into consideration.

36. An information-signal playback method according to claim 35;

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wherein said additional information is information superposed on said main information signal as digital-watermark information, said information-signal playback method further including the step of driving said information-signal processing apparatus to detect said digital-watermark information superposed on said main information signal.

37. An information-signal playback method for driving an information-signal reading apparatus to read out a main information signal and information on copyright protection from a recording medium containing said main information signal and information on at least copyright protection and supply said main information signal and said information on copyright protection to an information-signal processing apparatus, said information-signal playback method comprising the steps of:

driving said information-signal reading apparatus to supply encrypted information on copyright protection and unencrypted information on copyright protection to said information-signal processing apparatus and control an operation to read out said main information signal from said recording medium on the basis of a readout-

control signal received from said information-signal processing apparatus; and

driving said information-signal processing apparatus to decrypt said encrypted information on copyright protection received from said information-signal reading apparatus, generate said readout-control signal on the basis of said unencrypted information on copyright protection received from said information-signal reading apparatus and information on copyright protection obtained as a result of decryption, and supply said readout-control signal to said information-signal reading apparatus.

38. An information-signal playback method according to claim 37 further including the steps of:

driving said information-signal processing apparatus to encrypt said readout-control signal and supply said encrypted readout-control signal to said information-signal reading apparatus; and

driving said information-signal reading apparatus to decrypt said encrypted read-out control signal received from said information-signal processing apparatus.

39. An information-signal playback method according to claim 37 wherein said information on copyright protection is media-type information indicating

the type of said recording medium.

40. An information-signal playback method according to claim 37 further including the step of encrypting said information on copyright protection in accordance with a CSS system.

41. An information-signal playback method according to claim 37 further including the steps of:

encrypting said information on copyright protection in accordance with a predetermined system; and

encrypting said readout control signal in accordance with a system different from said predetermined system.

42. An information-signal playback method according to claim 37,

wherein additional information for controlling a copy operation has been added to said main information signal recorded on said recording medium, said information-signal playback method further including the step of driving said information-signal processing apparatus to:

detect said additional information added to said main information signal received from said information-signal reading apparatus; and

generate a readout-control signal by taking said detected additional information into consideration.

43. An information-signal playback method according to claim 42,

wherein said additional information is information superposed on said main information signal as digital-watermark information, said information-signal playback method further including the step of driving said information-signal processing apparatus to detect said digital-watermark information superposed on said main information signal.

Sub a5 44. An information-signal reading method for reading out a main information signal and information on copyright protection from a recording medium containing said main information signal and information on at least copyright protection and for supplying said signal and said information to an information-signal processing apparatus, said information-signal reading method comprising the step of supplying encrypted information on copyright protection and said unencrypted information on copyright protection to said information-signal processing apparatus.

Sub a5 45. An information-signal reading method according to claim 44 wherein said information on copyright protection is media-type information indicating the type of said recording medium.

46. An information-signal reading method according

to claim 44 further including the step of encrypting said information on copyright protection in accordance with a CSS system.

47. An information-signal reading method for reading out a main information signal and information on copyright protection from a recording medium containing said main information signal and information on at least copyright protection and for supplying said signal and said information to an information-signal processing apparatus, said information-signal reading method comprising the steps of:

supplying encrypted information on copyright protection and unencrypted information on copyright protection to said information-signal processing apparatus; and

controlling an operation to read out said main information signal from said recording medium in accordance with a readout-control signal received from said information-signal processing apparatus.

48. An information-signal reading method according to claim 47,

wherein said readout-control signal supplied from said information-signal processing apparatus is encrypted information, said information-signal reading method further including the step of decrypting said encrypted

readout-control signal.

49. An information-signal reading method according to claim 47 wherein said information on copyright protection is media-type information indicating the type of said recording medium.

50. An information-signal reading method according to claim 47 wherein said information on copyright protection is information encrypted in accordance with a CSS system.

Sub A6
51. An information-signal processing method for receiving a main information signal, encrypted information on copyright protection and unencrypted information on copyright protection, said information-signal processing method comprising the steps of:

decrypting said encrypted information on copyright protection; and

controlling predetermined processing carried out on said main information signal on the basis of said unencrypted information on copyright protection and decrypted information on copyright protection.

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52. An information-signal processing method according to claim 51 wherein said information on copyright protection is media-type information indicating the type of said recording medium.

53. An information-signal processing method

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according to claim 51 wherein said encrypted information on copyright protection is information encrypted in accordance with a CSS system.

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54. An information-signal processing method according to claim 51 wherein additional information for controlling a copy operation has been added to said main information signal, said information-signal processing method further including the steps of:

detecting said additional information added to said main information signal;

controlling predetermined processing carried out on said main information signal by taking said detected additional information into consideration.

55. An information-signal processing method according to claim 54 wherein said additional information is information superposed on said main information signal as digital-watermark information, said information-signal processing method further including the step of detecting said digital-watermark information superposed on said main information signal.

56. An information-signal processing method for receiving a main information signal, encrypted information on copyright protection and unencrypted information on copyright protection, said information-signal processing method comprising the steps of:

decrypting said encrypted information on copyright protection; and

generating a control signal based on said unencrypted information on copyright protection and decrypted information on copyright protection and supplying said control signal to a supplier of said main information signal.

57. An information-signal processing method according to claim 56 further including the steps of:

encrypting said control signal generated by said control-signal generating means; and

supplying said encrypted control signal to a supplier of said main information signal.

58. An information-signal processing method according to claim 56 wherein said information on copyright protection is media-type information indicating the type of said recording medium.

59. An information-signal processing method according to claim 56 wherein said encrypted information on copyright protection is information encrypted in accordance with a CSS system.

60. An information-signal processing method according to claim 57 further including the step of encrypting said control signal in accordance with a system different from a system, in which said information

on copyright protection is encrypted.

61. An information-signal processing method according to claim 56 wherein additional information for controlling a copy operation has been added to said main information signal, said information-signal processing method further including the steps of:

detecting said additional information added to said main information signal; and

generating said control signal by taking said detected additional information into consideration.

62. An information-signal processing method according to claim 56 wherein said additional information is information superposed on said main information signal as digital-watermark information, said information-signal processing method further including the step of detecting said digital-watermark information superposed on said main information signal.